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SUBJECT: MGKV01: KOSOVO MONITORING GROUP SITUATION
REPORT NO. 07

EMBASSY REMAINS CLOSED IN BELGRADE, PRISTINA QUIET

1. (SBU) Embassy Belgrade reports it will review its security posture at 1700 local time (2300 EST) February 19, anticipating large February 21 demonstrations led by political parties. U.S. Office Pristina reports ?calm? in Pristina. Media report Serbs opposed to Kosovo?s newly-declared independence burned down a border crossing in Jarinje manned by Kosovo and UN police. (Kosovo MG/Embassy Belgrade telcon, Kosovo MG/ U.S. Office Pristina telcon, Reuters)

RECOGNITIONS TRICKLE IN, ISRAEL AND MONTENEGRO WAIT TO DECIDE

2. (SBU) Embassy Manama reports Bahrain is coordinating with the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, which intend to recognize Kosovo ?soon,? likely in

advance of a March GCC meeting. Media report Australia formalized its recognition.
(Kosovo MG/Embassy Manama e-mail, Sydney Morning Herald, Kosovo MG/Embassy Podgorica e-mail, jpost.com)
CHALLENGES TO ICO

¶3. (SBU) U.S. Office Pristina reports Kosovo Serb hardliner Marko Jaksic is urging ethnic Serbs to avoid contact with the International Civilian Office (ICO) and the coming European Rule of Law (EULEX) mission in northern Kosovo. (Kosovo MG/ U.S. Office Pristina e-mail)

SERBIAN FM TO ADDRESS OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

¶4. (SBU) USOSCE reports FM Jeremic will address the OSCE Permanent Council (PC) at 1500 local time, noting neither Serbia nor Russia have yet asked the PC to close the OSCE mission in Kosovo. (Kosovo MG/USOSCE telcon)

SOLANA TO VISIT PRISTINA

¶5. (SBU) EU High Representative Javier Solana will arrive in Pristina for a day of meetings with the Government of Kosovo, the UNSYG Special Representative, the KFOR commander, and the ICO Planning Team. He will be accompanied by EU Special Representative-designate Pieter Feith and EULEX chief General (ret.) Yves de Kermabon.
(Kosovo MG/ U.S. Office Pristina e-mail)

¶6. (U) MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.
RICE